

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 047673

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, UR, US (BARINOV, ALEKSANDR SERGEYEVICH)
(SEMIOKHIN, VLADIMIR IVANOVICH)

SUBJECT: SOVIET EMBASSY PROTEST ABOUT ACTIONS BY LOCAL
POLICE

1. SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR FOR CONSULAR AFFAIRS KAVALEROV
AND CONSUL MALNEV MADE ORAL PROTEST TO DEPARTMENT FEB 23
ALLEGING VIOLATIONS OF IMMUNITY IN TLO RECENT INCIDENTS
IN WHICH SOVIET EMBASSY WHITE LIST EMPLOYEES WERE STOPPED
FOR DRUNKEN DRIVING BY SUBURBAN VIRGINIA POLICE, AND ABOUT
DC POLICE TOWING OF FOUR EMBASSY CARS FROM L STREET ON
FEB 22.

2. FIRST VIRGINIA INCIDENT INVOLVED ALEKSANDR BARINOV,
WHO WAS TAKEN TO A FAIRFAX POLICE STATION FEB 20 AND
RELEASED TO SOVIET CONSUL. KAVALEROV AND MALNEV SUGGESTED
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THAT POLICE SHOULD HAVE PHONED SOVIET EMBASSY FROM PLACE OF
DETENTION AND NOT TAKEN BARINOV TO STATION. DEPTOFFS NOTED
THAT TAKING DIPLOMATS TO POLICE STATIONS IN DRUNKEN DRIVING
CASES TO BE PICKED UP BY EMBASSY COLLEAGUES IS COMMON
POLICE PRACTICE TO KEEP INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED FROM RESUMING
DRIVING AND INJURING OTHERS OR THEMSELVES. DEPTOFFS
POINTED OUT THAT SOV DUTY OFFICER HAD PROMPTLY NOTIFIED

SOVIET EMBASSY AFTER BARINOV WAS PICKED UP, AND BARINOV WAS ALLOWED TO PHONE EMBASSY FROM STATION. SOV DUTY OFFICER

HAD ALSO RETURNED TO SHOPPING CENTER WHERE BARINOV HAD BEEN PICKED UP TO ASSIST BARINOV'S WIFE AND CHILD.

3. SECOND INCIDENT DESCRIBED IN ORAL PROTEST WAS DEC. 30, 1977 STOPPING AND SEARCHING OF VLADIMIR SEMIOKHIN IN FALLS CHURCH. DEPTOFFS SAID THEY HAD NOT HEARD OF THAT INCIDENT AND HAD NO INFORMATION ABOUT IT.

4. WITH REGARD TO TOWING INCIDENT, DEPTOFFS NOTED THAT DEPARTMENT WAS IN TOUCH WITH CITY POLICE ABOUT THE MATTER BUT COULD OFFER NO PROMISES THAT ILLEGALLY PARKED SOVIET EMBASSY CARS ON L STREET WOULD NOT BE TOWED AWAY IN THE FUTURE. DEPTOFFS REMINDED SOVIET OFFICERS OF DEPARTMENT'S POSITION THAT SOVIET EMBASSY SHOULD RENT OFF-STREET PARKING SPACE AS NORMAL EXPENSE OF OPERATING IN WASHINGTON. VANCE

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